

May 2: Nick & Bettie flew home to Cleveland yesterday. Gary & Sharon spent the day driving about seven hours from Rome to the tip of the Italian peninsula and spent the night in Catona, near Reggio di Calabria. On the morning of May 2 we rose early and took the ferry across the straits to Messina, Sicily. From there it was about 30 minutes to Taormina, on the east coast of Sicily.



The Pensione Svizzera in Taormina was a lovely place to stay. Our room had a spectacular view up the coastline. It's easy to see why Taormina is such a popular town. It crowns a mountain top 300 meters above the sea and is full of fine restaurants and shops. Sicily is famous for its desserts ... we tried our first in Taormina and our favorites were the cannoli and the mandorle.







Taormina's 3rd century B.C. Teatro Greco was magnificent. From the seats you have a spectacular view of the ocean and Mt. Etna.



The Parco Duchi di Cesaro, just below the theater, was created by an english woman in the Victorian era.







On the coast below Taormina is a small beach town called Mazzaro. Next to our hotel was a funivia, or cable car, that whisked you down to the seaside in a few minutes.



Traditional Sicilian puppets on display at the civic museum.



Since the traffic signs don't seem to matter, you can put a stop sign wherever you like!

